

University of Waterloo
SENATE UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL
Minutes of the 21 November 2023 Meeting
[in agenda order]

Present: Katherine Acheson, Logan Baston, Cecilia Cotton, Victoria Chu, Vivian Dayeh, Laura Deakin, David DeVidi (chair) Leeann Ferries, Jason Grove, Fatma Gzara, Carol Ann MacGregor, Kristiina Montero, Catherine Newell Kelly, Rory Norris, Chris Vigna, Johanna Wandel, Tim Weber-Kraljevski (secretary), Richard Wikkerink.

Resources/Guests: Pam Charbonneau, Jennifer Coghlin, Anne-Marie Fannon, Sacha Geer, Danielle Jeanneault, Sandra Lopez-Rocha, Carrie MacKinnon, Maysah Eid, Kyle Scholz.

Absent: Janice Aurini, Viv Hoang, Alysia Kolentsis*, Grace Marshal, Isaac Ocampo, Helen Shilomboleni, Theodore Thompson, Ryan Trelford.

*regrets

Organization of Meeting: David DeVidi took the chair and Tim Weber-Kraljevski acted as secretary. The secretary advised that a quorum was present. The agenda was approved without formal motion.

1. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No conflicts of interest were declared.

2. APPROVAL OF THE 17 OCTOBER 2023 MINUTES

The minutes were approved without formal motions.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The chair informed member that the Curriculum Subcommittee pilot have been endorsed by Senate and the Subcommittee has began reviewing curriculum submission and making recommendations to Council. The chair also informed members that Senate Graduate and Research Council (SGRC) has endorsed the new Quality Assurance Senate Committee proposal and thanked Ferries for presenting the proposal to SGRC. There was no further business arising.

CONSENT AGENDA

Grove requested a revision to item 4b. to add "BET 210 or level at least 3A" as a pre-requisite to new course BET 405. A motion was heard to approve consent agenda as revised. Wandel and Ferries. Carried.

4. CURRICULAR SUBMISSIONS

Council approved items a-f as presented, with noted revision.

REGULAR AGENDA

5. ACADEMIC PROGRAM REVIEWS

a. Progress Report: Global Business and Digital Arts, and Digital Experience Innovation: Jessica Thompson presented a brief overview of the report. Members discussed: the timing of the report and why it does not have the signature page; operational differences for the satellite campus, particularly transportation challenges; and clarification on recommendations 12, 14 and 15. Thompson left the meeting. Members discussed the accuracy of some of the recommendations progress details, particularly: recommendation 12 needs to ensure the program response

addresses the recommendation fully; recommendation 14 needs a more accurate update as the building timeline is not realistic; recommendation 15 needs the program response to clarify specific plans for networking opportunities in Toronto; and the program needs to confirm with the Dean's Office the accuracy of statements relating to references to the new MA/PhD program. A motion was heard to approve the progress report on behalf of Senate, subject to updates correcting the recommendations progress details to ensure their accuracy. MacGregor and Acheson. Carried.

6. Curriculum Submission

a. Engineering: Grove spoke to the proposed new plans: the Quantum Engineering Specialization in Computer Engineering and the Quantum Engineering Specialization in Electrical Engineering, as well as the Nanoelectronics Specialization, Nanobiosystems Specialization, Nanofabrication Specialization, and Nanomaterials Specialization in Nanotechnology Engineering. A motion was heard to recommend Senate approve the creation of the specializations, as presented. Grove and Acheson. Carried.

b. Environment: Wandle spoke to the proposed Social Planning and Community Development Specialization in Planning Honours, the major modifications to the Environmental Planning and Management Specialization, Land Development Planning Specialization, Urban Design Specialization in Planning Honours, the inactivation of Decision Support and Geographical Information Systems Specialization in Planning Honours, and the regulation revision to remove the invalid combination of the Diploma of Excellence in Geographic Information Systems with Planning. A motion was heard to recommend Senate approve the new plan, the major modifications, the plan inactivation, and the academic regulation revision, as presented. Wandel and Ferries. Carried. Wandel also spoke to the other academic regulation revision for Diploma of Sustainability invalid combination with Sustainability and Financial Management, the overview of Co-op plan requirements, and the Repeated Course text. A motion was heard to recommend that Senate approve the academic regulation revisions, as presented. Wandel and Acheson. Carried.

c. Student Success Office (SSO): Geer and Charbonneau spoke to the proposal to inactivate the Global Experience Certificate (GEC) and the Global Learning and Intercultural Development Experience (GLIDE) being designed to replace GEC. Members discussed: graduate rates for the GEC and potential impact of the pandemic; the ability for students who have declared their intention to obtain a GEC prior to the inactivation to transfer into GLIDE; resource constraints of the SSO; the GEC's language course requirement; if students value having something on their transcript versus receiving a certificate; and the implications for GLIDE should the GEC not be inactivated. A motion was heard to recommend that Senate approve the inactivation of the Global Experience Certificate, as presented. Montero and Grove. Carried with three abstaining.

7. REGISTRAR'S OFFICE

a. Academic Considerations and Accommodations Report: Coghlin provided an overview of the material provided. Members discussed: possible confusion in the proposed wording that could read that students need to use the Self-Declaration of Absence Form before Verification of Illness Form (VIF); guidelines needed for instructors; and what students are able to do while on a short-term self-declared absence. A motion was heard to recommend Senate approve the regulation revision to the Academic Considerations and Accommodations, subject to wording revisions to clarify intent agreed upon by the Associate Deans, Undergraduate Studies and Coghlin. Newell-Kelly and Deakin. Carried.

8. Revisions to the Institutional Quality Assurance Process

The chair presented an overview of material provided. A motion was heard to recommend Senate approve the envisions to the Institutional Quality Assurance Process (IQAP), as presented. Jason and Laura. Carried.

9. Evidence Based Teaching

Fanon and Scholz presented on the Learning Innovation & Teaching Enhancement (LITE) Grants and the Work-Learn Institute (WxL), highlighting: the history of the LITE grants; how the knowledge is disseminated; recent themes of LITE grants; and the history of WxL and examples of recent studies. Fanon and Scholz requested feedback and members discussed how the University be doing to make better use of evidence being gathering about teaching and learning and how this research can be best disseminated. Fanon and Scholz will be asked back at a future meeting to continue the conversation.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

Members discuss potential topics for future meetings, including grade inflation.

11. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting adjourned. The next meeting is Monday, 5 February 2024, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. in NH 3318.

29 November 2023

Tim Weber-Kraljevski
Governance Officer